

# Research Activity Panel Meeting

Long Marine Laboratory, UCSC  
Friday March 14, 1997

09:00 - 12:00

## Meeting Minutes

Introduction of members and guests in attendance (G. Cailliet)

## Institution Representatives

Greg Cailliet, Moss Landing Marine Labs- Chair  
Andrew DeVogelaere, MBNMS- RAP Coordinator  
Jane Caffrey, ESNERR and ESF Steve Eittreim, USGS  
Deborah Johnston, CDFG/ Monterey Rikk Kvitek, CSUMB  
Giacomo Bernardi, UCSC  
Jan Roletto, GFNMS/CBNMS  
Leslie Rosenfeld, Naval Postgraduate School  
Mark Stephenson, CDFG/Mar. Pollution Studies Lab  
Les Strnad, CA Coastal Commission  
Geoff Wheat, NOAA/NURP

### At-Large

Caroline Pomeroy, UCSC/CSUMB Special Advisors  
Les Strand, CSUMB

### Guests:

Scott Benson, Moss Landing Marine Laboratories  
Jenny Carless, Editor, MBNMS Newsletter  
Jane Delay, MBNMS  
Gary Griggs, Long Marine Laboratories/ UCSC  
Michele Jacobi, Sea Grant Fellow, MBNMS  
Elliot Norse, Marine Conservation Biology Institute  
Don Potts, UCSC

## CONSENT ITEMS:

### Modifications to the agenda (G. Cailliet)

The following topics were added to the agenda:

### Discussion: RAP letter of commendation to MBNMS Manager Terry Jackson;

RAP members approved a letter of commendation to Terry Jackson for his service as Manager of the MBNMS.

## **An update on Proposed Coastal and Fisheries Legislation for California.**

Carolyn Pomeroy and Andrew DeVogelaere updated RAP members on the status of proposed legislation addressing fisheries and marine conservation management issues in California. Following some discussion, RAP members agreed that regular updates on the legislation were important so that the group could respond, either together or individually, on a case-by-case basis. Caroline Pomeroy was designated as the lead and will be responsible for reviewing proposed legislation and preparing regular updates for the RAP. Please e-mail Carrie any background information or bill numbers that you would like her to keep up with.

It was noted that this was one area where the RAP could help the Advisory Council identify opportunities for funding and issues that may have an impact on the Sanctuary. Greg will clarify with the Advisory Council if this may be something they want the RAP to follow through on.

## **Update the regional research directory**

The Sanctuary office is updating its web-page. RAP members were asked to review their personal information and to return any changes to Michele Jacobi at the Sanctuary. Michele can be reached via e-mail at [mjacobi@lobos.mbnms.noaa.nos.gov](mailto:mjacobi@lobos.mbnms.noaa.nos.gov). Approval of the minutes for February 1997 (G. Cailliet)

**The Draft minutes from the February 14, 1997 meeting were approved as amended with one abstention.**

# **PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSIONS**

## **Overview of activities at Long Marine Laboratory (G. Griggs)**

Dr. Gary Griggs, Director of the Institute of Marine Sciences at the University of California, Santa Cruz (UCSC), briefed RAP members on the institution's special projects and programs. Highlights of the presentation included mention of the following programs:

The completion of the California Department of Fish and Game Oil Wildlife Center, or the "Sea Otter Hilton" ; designed primarily to take care of sea otters, both in times of crisis and non-crisis. For the most part, the Center will be used as a research station and should be open by Summer 1997.

Relocation of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) -Tiburon facility. The UCSC budget presently includes funds to purchase land and construct a building. The group would be a major contribution to the marine resources of the area. USGS Coastal Marine Group has developed a collaborative program with UCSC. They are proposing to share time between Menlo Park and Santa Cruz.

The UCSC Marine Education Program Vision is to focus public education on the Long Marine Laboratories -Window to Discovery program. Dr. Griggs informed the RAP that Long Marine Lab is one of the only working marine labs actually open to the public -an average of 30-40 people visit the center daily in addition to numerous school groups.

## **MBNMS Beach Survey Program (S. Benson)**

Scott Benson, a graduate student at Moss Landing Marine Laboratories (MLML) briefed RAP members on the MBNMS Beach Survey Program. Initial objectives of the program are to: 1) assess the variability of beach cast birds and mammals; and, 2) to develop a design for effective long-term monitoring. Volunteers will start in and around the Monterey Bay area and then expand farther out as more volunteers become available. The MBNMS and CUEREC are presently funding the program.

RAP members discussed problems and methodologies associated with correct species verification. It was suggested that volunteers be encouraged to bring their own personal camera to help with the identification of the species. Other recommendations included the use of GPS and finding a sponsor to donate the equipment.

## **BREAK**

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **Belief versus knowledge based stewardship of natural resources (A. DeVogelaere)**

Andrew DeVogelaere attended a conference at which there was a presentation on the National Parks System and the evolution of their philosophy for resource management. Although belief based management is well intended it has resulted in significant problems (examples were given). The NPS is shifting from belief based management to knowledge based decision making. Moreover, there is clear commitment to monitoring the resources being managed.

Andrew believed that the Advisory Council and SRD might benefit from the NPS experience. The RAP felt that too often, there are large gaps between science and policy, and that decision makers should take advantage of groups like the RAP to obtain information.

Les Strnad commented that, given the recent activity in the State Legislature, this was an opportune time for the research community to become more involved in the policy making process. Marine environmental legislation will be stronger if it includes a scientific base and policy makers need to be educated about this.

### **Special Guest Introduction and Comments -- Dr. Elliot Norse**

Dr. Elliot Norse, a former employee of the Center for Marine Conservation, and founder of the Marine Conservation Biology Institute, was introduced and welcomed as a special guest of the RAP. Dr. Norse resigned from the Center for Marine Conservation to found the Research Institute to promote the use of science in marine environmental advocacy. Among other goals, Dr. Norse would like to see the purview of the National Marine Sanctuary Program increased to be more equivalent -- in terms of protected areas and budget -- with the National Parks Service. Dr. Norse is currently working with Congress to establish a funding mechanism for marine conservation biology.

As for the MBNMS and the issues facing it; such as, the proposed underwater park and fishing concerns, Dr. Norse suggested that the Great Barrier Reef be considered as a successful Model to follow. He presented a number of reasons for why he felt the Model was effective: 1) there is a powerful park authority that can affect things on land as well as in the sea that impact the area; 2) the protected area is huge -- which Dr. Norse reported as being very important in the whole scheme of processes in the marine environment; and 3) the Great Barrier Reef is zoned to provide optimal protection while managing multiple uses. For example, different areas of the Reef are classified into zones depending on the area's specific characteristics. Some areas are set aside for sport fishing, but not commercial fishing; other areas are for scientific observation only, and some places are used for tourists and recreational purposes. The zones are closely monitored and reviewed every 5-years so that changes can be made as needed.

RAP members explored the possibilities of instituting a similar type of zoning system in the MBNMS. Current proposed legislation may offer an opportunity for some sort of zone management system to take effect. It was agreed that the subject should be offered as a suggestion to the Advisory Council and that, as a body, the Council and the RAP might have some influence on the process.

Finally, Dr. Norse commented that the MBNMS needs to build a ground swell of public support for the Sanctuary. The RAP thanked Dr. Norse for visiting and for his comments.

# SHORT INFORMATION ITEMS

## Verbal items:

### Summary of the SAC meeting (G. Cailliet)

The Advisory Council met in Half Moon Bay, California on Friday, February 21, 1997. Highlights of the meeting included:

A presentation on the Water Quality Protection Program (WQPP) by Tami Grove. Stan Wilson, Director of the National Ocean Service, and other highly placed politicians are interested in using the WQPP as a national model. Greg suggested that communications between scientists and the WQPP be improved to result in a better general understanding of the program.

Andrew gave a presentation on the MBNMS Research Program; there was good feedback on the site characterization and the webpage. Greg presented his concerns about the decreasing Research budget and temporary nature of the MBNMS Research Coordination position.

Discussion of the Northern MBNMS boundary -- SRD has set up a task force of six people, nominated by the Managers, to address any questions that may arise in the management of the Northern MBNMS. The Advisory Council expressed some concerns about the method and purpose of the task force. There was a meeting between the staffs of both sanctuaries on Monday, March 17, 1997 to discuss programs.

SAC Charter -- the document seems to reflect more of what the locals want.

Vessel Traffic --there was a presentation by the Coast Guard on proposed workshops for developing solutions to vessel traffic safety issues in the sanctuary.

Jade Collection -- the recommendations presented by the jade collection community, and supported by the Advisory Council, were used to amend the proposed Federal Ruling for jade collection. The proposed rule is expected to be published in the Federal Register soon.

Report on the MLML new building --Greg presented an overview of the new MLML facility.

Ed Cassano, Manager of the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary, gave a presentation on International Recognition for the National Marine Sanctuary Program and options for vessel traffic regulations. Sanctuary Budget -- Joanne Flanders, MBNMS Asst. Manager, presented the Sanctuary's budget. Greg communicated RAP concerns and budget priorities.

ATOC -- Ed Ueber, Manager of the Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries, gave a brief report on the latest status of the ATOC project.

### Update on MBNMS Superintendent and Research positions (G. Cailliet)

The process for selection of a Sanctuary Superintendent continues. The final six candidates gave presentations describing their Vision for the MBNMS on March 11 -12, 1997. Advisory Council members were invited to hear the presentations but not allowed to submit opinions on any candidate.

RAP members suggested that the new Superintendent be invited to attend a RAP meeting as soon as possible. The focus of discussion should be on ways to better integrate science and management for determining policies.

### **McArthur Schedule (A. De Vogelaere)**

A draft of the McArthur schedule is nearly complete and will soon be available for distribution.

A highlight of the research plan for the cruise is the intended use of the Sanctuary plane in conjunction with the McArthur to enhance the whale and acoustic studies.

Andrew raised some concerns about the future of the McArthur cruises and the ship's availability to MBNMS scientists if the NOAA Corps was to be decommissioned. He suggested that the RAP address a letter to National Ocean Service Director, Stan Wilson, emphasizing the importance of the cruises. RAP members agreed and requested that the new Superintendent also be made aware of the critical importance of the McArthur cruises for conducting research in the Sanctuary.

### **Sanctuary Currents update (A. De Vogelaere)**

The Sanctuary Currents Symposium is March 15, 1997 at the Coconut Grove in Santa Cruz. Several Awards are to be presented: MLML is being recognized as an outstanding organization; Greg Cailliet will receive the Ricketts Awards; and, Terry Jackson will be honored for his outstanding contributions to the MBNMS.

**Written items** (no discussion unless there are questions):

### **Feedback on the Light in the Deep Sea Report (R. Kochevar)**

Send e-mails directly to Randy Kochevar

### **NMS Research Reports, see handout (A. De Vogelaere/J. Roletto)**

see handout

### **Permit Report (S. Kathey)**

See handout.

### **Co-management of northern MBNMS**

See handout

### **Moss Landing Marine Labs recognized: MBNMS Sanctuary Currents Institution Award**

See handout

### **New Business**

Cordial and warm hello to all RAP members from Jim Rote.

The Conservation Working Group has been invited to the RAP meetings. Rick Starr will attend the next Conservation Working Group meeting to give an update on the RAP's suggestions for improving cooperative efforts between the working groups.

### **The meeting adjourned at 12:20 PM**

Minutes Compiled by

Jane Delay , Michele Jacobi and Andrew De Vogelaere Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary